

Remarks

Claims 1-18 remain in the application.

All the base claims have been amended to unambiguously state, as has been clearly intended from the beginning, the side magnets do not extend above a level of the roof of target.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4, 5, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Fai Lai (U.S. Patent 6,217,716).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 10, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Lai et al. (U.S. Patent 6,444,105, hereafter Lai '105).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 8, 10, and 12-14 under 35 U.S. §103(a) as being obvious over Fai Lai or Lai '105 in view of Gopalraja et al (EP 1119017, hereafter Gopalraja).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Fai Lai or Lai '105 in view of Haag et al. (U.S. Patent 6,337,001, hereafter Haag), Glockner et al. (U.S. Patent 5,069,770) and Kumar (U.S. Patent 5,178,743).

These rejections of the present claims are all traversed. The all depend upon Fai Lai or Lai '105 for the recitation of the magnet or magnetic means not extending above the roof. The Examiner states that Fai Lai and Lai '105 teach magnets that are not above the roof but rather are rather adjacent to the roof. This interpretation of the claim language needs to be withdrawn.

Fai Lai and Lai '105 both teach a side magnet '116 or 103 that extends along the sidewalls of the hollow cathode target 120 or 104 to an upper point vertically above the level of the roof 118, 104. Whether this point is adjacent the roof is not material. The only material point is whether that point is above the roof.

The Examiner has rejected claims 11 and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over presumably Fai Lai or Lai '105 in view of Gopalraja, although the references are not cited and further in view of Haag.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Fai Lai or Lai '105 in view of Glockner.

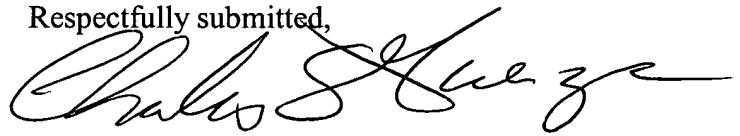
These rejections are all traversed. They all depend upon Fai Lai or Lai '105 for the recitation of the magnet or magnetic means not extending above the level of the roof. The Examiner states that Fai Lai and Lai '105 teach magnets that are not above the roof but rather are rather adjacent to the roof. This interpretation does not apply to the amended claim language.

Fai Lai and Lai '105 both teach a side magnet 116 or 103 that extends along the sidewalls of the hollow cathode target 120 or 104 to an upper point vertically above the level of the roof 118, 104. Whether this point is adjacent the roof is not material. The only material point is whether that point is above the roof.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number, which is on California time.

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Respectfully submitted,



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